Declaration or Positra Port as SEZ

4144. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Positra Port has been declared as SEZ;

(b) whether any environmental clearance has been obtained;

(c) whether the Ministry of Commerce and Industry had been contacted for such clearance before declaring SEZ;

(d) if not, what action has been taken so far; and

(e) what are the other proposals from Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH): (a) to (d) In principle approval has been given for setting up of a Special Economic Zone (SEZ) at Positra near Dwarka in Gujarat. The approval is subject to the condition that the promoters of the Zone would get all necessary clearances, including clearance from the Ministry of Environment and Forests, which is yet to be obtained by them.

(e) No other proposal for setting up of SEZ in Gujarat has been received. However existing Export Processing Zones at Kandla and Surat in Gujarat have been converted into Special Economic Zones on 1.11.2000.

Decline in Export to Developed Countries

4145. SHRI GAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that our exports to the developed countries including UK, Germany, Belgium, Japan and Switzerland have fallen during the year 1999-2000; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH): (a) and (b) Exports to most of the major developed countries have